

For Immediate Release:
Sent August 11, 2009

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San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant #1 in Energy Production on EPA's Top 20 List

San Jose- The San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant has been recognized by the EPA Green Power Partnership in its list of Top 20 organizations that produce green electricity on site.

This marks another achievement for San Jose in terms of green-friendly technology and practices. In 2007, the San Jose City Council adopted Mayor Reed's Green Vision, a 15-year plan aimed at using Clean Technology and sustainable practices to solve environmental problems and boost the local economy.

"San Jose continues to lead the way in renewable energy generation and environmental protection," said Mayor Reed. "Having the San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant ranked number one in green energy production from the EPA is considerable recognition of our efforts in this area."

The City of San Jose is a part of the EPA's Green Power Partnership, which is made up of over 1,100 companies, organizations, and local and federal government institutions. The San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant ranks 4th in terms of total green electricity generation and 1st for onsite percentage of total green electricity usage. 56% of the Water Pollution Control Plant's electricity is derived from green energy generated onsite.

John Stufflebean, Director of Environmental Services, looks forward to even more breakthroughs in the plant's use of renewable energy. "Due to the fact that the plant discharges into the ecologically sensitive South San Francisco Bay, energy intensive advanced treatment is required," he said. "We expect the continuing efforts to derive even more energy from biomass and the implementation of other green energy production on Plantlands to enable the plan to ultimately be energy self-sufficient."

Green power comes from renewable sources, such as solar, wind, geothermal, biomass, biogas, and low-impact hydropower. One of the 10 goals of Mayor Reed's Green Vision is that eventually, 100% of the electricity used in San Jose will come from clean, renewable sources.

ABOUT SAN JOSE'S GREEN VISION

On October 7, 2007, Mayor Chuck Reed introduced San Jose's Green Vision, which sets 10 ambitious goals for environmental protection and economic development. This 15-year plan envisions: creating 25,000 Clean Tech jobs; building or retrofitting 50 million square feet of green buildings; installing 100,000 solar roofs (1/10 of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's 1 million solar roofs for California initiative); reducing per capita electricity use by half; becoming a zero waste city; recycling and reusing 100 percent of the city's water; and moving to 100 percent renewable energy. For more information, visit www.sanjoseca.gov/greenvision/.

ABOUT THE CITY OF SAN JOSE

From its founding in 1777 as California's first city, San Jose has been a leader, driven by its spirit of innovation. Today, San Jose stands as the largest city in Northern California and the Capital of Silicon Valley—the world's leading center of innovation. The city, the 10th largest in the U.S., is committed to remaining a top-ranked place to do business, to work and to live. For more information, visit, www.sanjoseca.gov.